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Viewing cable 07RIYADH873, MINISTRY OF INTERIOR CONTINUES TO UNDERSCORE

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Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cables unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables (browse by origin to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this WikiSource article as reference.

Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags #cablegate and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. #07RIYADH873.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
07RIYADH873	2007-04-25 16:03	2011-08-30 01:44	SECRET	Embassy Riyadh

Appears in these articles:

http://www.mcclatchydc.com/2011/06/13/115715/wikileaks-cables-show-worry-about.html

VZCZCXRO6738
OO RUEHDE RUEHDIR
DE RUEHRH #0873/01 1151603
ZNY SSSSS ZZH
O 251603Z APR 07
FM AMEMBASSY RIYADH
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5170
INFO RUEHZM/GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE
RUEHHH/OPEC COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE
RUEHJI/AMCONSUL JEDDAH IMMEDIATE 8618
RHEBAAA/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
RHRMAKS/COMUSNAVCENT IMMEDIATE
RHMFISS/HQ USCENCOM MACDILL AFB FL IMMEDIATE
RUEKDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
RUCPDOG/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 RIYADH 000873

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

DOE PASS TO ADEALVAREZ AND PWILLGING
CIA PASS TO TCOYNE

E.O. 12958: DECL: 04/25/2017
TAGS: EPET PTER PGOV INR SA
SUBJECT: MINISTRY OF INTERIOR CONTINUES TO UNDERSCORE
IRANIAN THREAT TO PETROLEUM FACILITIES

REF: A. AL SEMARI-ROSS E-MAIL 23 APRIL 2007

1B. RIYADH 00523

Classified By: ADCM DAVID RUNDELL FOR REASONS
12958 1.4 B, D, AND E

1. (U) This is an action request. Please see paragraph five.

Iranian Threat Weighs on MOI; MOI Requests
Threat Brief and Addition to Agenda for JWG

12. (S) During an April 21 meeting, Ministry of Interior Chief of Staff Major General Dr. Saad al Jabri continued to communicate his deep concern with the threat posed by Iran to Saudi Arabia's petroleum infrastructure. His concerns track those expressed by Assistant Minister of Interior Mohammed bin Nayif in ref B. Dr. al Jabri requested a briefing from the CIA and other related intelligence or military agencies on the threat Iran presents to petroleum facilities in Saudi Arabia's Eastern Province, in an inter-agency meeting attended by Energy Attache Ross, CIA energy Analysts XXXXXXXXXXXX, XXXXXXXXXXXX, and XXXXXXXXXXXX, and BPM Officers Seyer and Moraga. Dr. al J brief King Abdullah. In ref A, Joint Working Group (JWG) on critical infrastructure protection (CIP) Saudi Co-Chair Dr. Saud Al-Semari also requested we add an additional component to the JWG agenda, "Threat Assessment and Countermeasures."

Iranian Threat Backdrop to Accelerated JWG

13. (S) Dr. Jabri explained the MOI had moved the next meeting of the JWG forward from June until April 30 because of its concerns with the situation in the Gulf, specifically increased hostilities with Iran. He also highlighted increasing threats from Saudi Arabia's and neighboring Shi'a, and the threat posed by the Saudi Hezbollah. Dr. al Jabri noted neither the MOI nor the Ministry of Defense and Aviation sufficiently understood Iranian capabilities to allow for appropriate contingency planning for continued oil operations or recovery from a significant attack. He stated it would not have to be a highly accurate missile to cause serious operational damage to Saudi oil operations, even a "stupid" missile could do so. He expressed his worries with a "layered" attack by both military forces and terrorists, which could then be compounded by a Shi'a reaction in the Eastern Province. He stated, "we would like to be prepared for worst case scenarios, we do not want any surprises."

Internal Aramco Threat Concerns MOI

14. (S) Finally, Dr. al Jabri also highlighted the MOI's concern with the threat posed by internal sabotage from Saudi Aramco employees. He stated there were Saudi Aramco employees known by MOI to be members of extremist groups.

Action Request

15. (S) S/CT please advise if an interagency threat brief can be presented during the April 30 JWG meeting to address Saudi concerns with the Iranian threat to petroleum facilities, and possible follow-up contingency planning. Please advise if "Threat Assessment and Countermeasures" item can be added to the JWG agenda.

Comment

16. (S) Post believes these are serious and legitimate requests which will make the JWG significantly more useful for our Saudi counterparts. We hope these requests can be granted.

GFOELLER